

Mansfield Public Schools

Board of Education Update

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Superintendent of Schools

Issue #47

May 2012

Information regarding the current status of the Mansfield Public Schools: items, issues, challenges, and opportunities district staff addressed during the month, as well as upcoming district and school events.

Enrollment

Gr.	GW		SE		VN		MMS		Total
		+/-*		+/-*		+/-*		+/-*	
PK	33	7/4	28	0/3	30	5/4			91
K	39	3/6	47	5/2	46	6/4			132
1	39	9/3	47	2/6	50	7/2			136
2	28	2/4	40	3/2	57	6/3			125
3	43	4/1	45	4/2	41	4/1			129
4	39	7/4	46	2/1	51	2/1			136
PK-4									749
5							146	20/2	146
6							139	10/5	139
7							144	12/5	144
8							153	11/0	153
# Boys	127		139		141		289		
# Girls	94		114		134		293		
Total	221	32/22	253	16/16	275	30/16	582	53/12	1331

*Entries/Withdrawals

- Home-school year to date total: 5 families with 11 students.

	GW	SE	VN	MMS	District
Immigrant children*	17	20	4	6	47
ELL **	13	20	6	8	47

*Eligible immigrant children are defined as a) ages 3-21 enrolled full-time in school, b) not born in any state, c) have not been attending 1 or more schools in 1 or more states for more than 3 full academic years.

**English Language Learners

Connecticut Mastery Test – Fourth Generation Results

#/% of students at/above goal – March 2011

Grade	Math	Writing	Reading	Science
3 – 130	102/84.6	94/72.7	94/72.7	-----
4 – 131	105/80.2	99/75.6	99/75.6	-----
5 – 141	125/88.7	111/78.7	111/78.7	120/85.2
6 – 140	110/78.6	105/75.0	105/75	-----
7 – 142	109/76.8	107/75.5	107/75.5	-----
8 – 145	116/80.0	121/83.7	121/83.7	129/89.0

- Students not reaching goal in one or more areas: (2011-2012 grade)

Gr. 4 – 49/37.7%	Gr. 7 – 53/37.5%
Gr. 5 – 48/36.6%	Gr. 8 – 51/35.7%
Gr. 6 – 45/31.6%	Gr. 9 – 41/28.0%

- Results reviewed by district and building administration along with appropriate teaching and support staff.
- Reviewed preliminary NCLB reports indicated that MMS and the district have not reached Adequate Yearly Progress in Reading and Mathematics for Students with Disabilities and in Reading for Economically Disadvantaged.

Budget

- Food Service Comparison:

September – May 2011		September – May 2012	
Paid Meals	Total Meals	Paid Meals	Total Meals
81,007	135,705	87,598	147,478

- Pilot of MMS Salad Bar will continue through the end of this school year.
- Investigated Summer Meals Program for residents.

Personnel

	Certified	Non-Certified
Retirements	0	0
Resignations	0	0
Requests for Leave	0	0
New Hires	0	0
Reduction in Force	0	0

- Implemented a plan to address a leave by Director of Food Services.
- Implemented AlertNow notification for all staff announcing delayed openings or school closures.
- Facilitated interviews MMS Principal Search Committee.
- Facilitated posting of certified/non-certified staff positions for 2012-2013.
- Participated in all certified staff search committees.
- Participated with Personnel Committee in UPSEU and School Nurse Association negotiations.

District: Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment

Including Instructional Technology Applications

- Continued Study Island software program for all district grade 3 and 4 students to use both at school and at home.
- Facilitated a year four implementation plan for *Bridges in Mathematics*.
- Facilitated the plan for implementing Houghton Mifflin: *Legacy of Literacy*.
- Conducted three Administrative Council meetings.
- Supported the continued development of school data teams.
- Implemented Digital Art displays at all schools and other public buildings.
- Attended Math Textbook Pilot Committee meeting.
- Developed next steps for district regarding Common Core States Standards (CCSS).
- Continued to review options regarding CCSS transition plan.
- Facilitated Curriculum Conveners Meeting to review Summer Curriculum Proposals and finalized funding with Administrators.

Policies

- Implemented revised MBOE Policies approved at the October 13, 2011 meeting.
- Continued to explore the possibility of MBOE/Region 19 Policies revised concurrently.
- Facilitated posting on district website 2011-2012 MBOE Policy Manual.
- Addressed Mansfield Town Council Personnel Committee request for information.

Building and Grounds

- Continued to implement an alternative work order system.
- Conducted Facilities Management meeting to address current issues.
- Facilitated revisions to the Mansfield Public Schools Custodial and Maintenance Procedures and Policies Manual.
- Did not receive Safe Routes to School grant.
- Monitored repair and maintenance of school roofs.
- Facilitated use of Vinton back classroom as new town polling place.

Maintenance Work Requests						
	GW	SE	VN	MMS	Total	
Solved	157	194	211	359	921	86%
Pending	9	9	4	7	29	3%
Open	39	21	13	45	118	11%
Total	205	224	228	411	1068	100%

Programs

Study Island Through May 26, 2012

Grade 3				Grade 4			
Math		Reading		Math		Reading	
Q*	% Correct	Q*	% Correct	Q*	% Correct	Q*	% Correct
34,337	82.2	19,413	70.4	34,719	85.6	29,537	74.6

*Number of questions attempted on grade level

MMS Open Library/Media Center Night				
	4/4/12	4/11/12	4/25/12	5/2/12
Students	5	6	7	4
Parents	1	0	2	2
Total	6	6	9	6

MMS Open Library/Media Center Night Monthly Average					
	11/11	12/11	1/12	2/12	3/12
Students	12	9	21	19	13
Parents	4	2	6	7	2
Total	16	11	27	26	15

Energy

- Facilitated school building energy committees.
- Continued to facilitate guidelines for after school building use in an effort to reduce energy consumption.
- Monitored use of energy efficient refrigerators to replace classroom use of small refrigerators.
- Initiated monitoring of gas heat & electric energy charges at MMS due to fuel conversion project.
- Discussed with finance and maintenance department common comprehensive energy management system.
- Implemented CCM Program: Energy Savings Performance Contracting (ESPC) under PA 11-80.
- Facilitated Conn Serv energy audit of Southeast School.
- Facilitated SOAR internships from 3 Rivers Comm. College with the enrichment teachers for a school greenhouse design at MMS and a school garden design at Vinton.

Security

- Continued the implementation of required crisis prevention drills for all schools with emergency management officials.
- Continued the implementation of Tabletop Emergency Procedures Drill preparation.

Communication

- Held monthly meeting with Town Manager.
- Conducted monthly meetings with bargaining unit leaders.
- Attended URSA and Hockanum Superintendents' meeting.
- Attended MAC meeting.
- Continued to implement A/C-E to enhance communication between meetings.
- Facilitated Mansfield Community Playground Design Day at each elementary school.
- Held Community Conversations at each school.

Professional Development

- Implemented district committee to review district SRBI procedures.
- Supported the continued development of school data teams.
- Implemented Administrator's Professional Development Series on Teacher Evaluation.
- Attended TEAM District Facilitator Meeting.
- Facilitated District TEAM Committee Meeting.
- Facilitated District Professional Development Committee Meeting.

Technology Administrative Applications

- Continued implementation of HealthOffice Software.
- Continued implementation of automated system for recording substitutes.
- Continued conversion to Horizon library system software.
- Supported training and development of PowerSchool software at MMS and Filemaker Pro software.
- Implemented new PowerSchool cafeteria software in all four schools.
- Implemented Pearson Limelight Inform to track student assessment data to inform instruction.
- Continued implementation of AlertNow software program for transportation issues.
- Implemented the posting on district website of a four schools district calendar.
- Developed & implemented plan for district assessments and CMT data to be entered in Pearson database.
- Continued review of revised district and school website.
- Facilitated purchase and use of digital display of student artwork.
- Initiated AlertNow for school delays/closings to parents/guardians.
- Attended IT Management Meeting with Region 19 and Town.
- Investigated school bus route scheduling software.

Other

- Attended Goodwin Bequest Committee meeting and participated in 8th grade field trip to the Capitol funded by the fund.
- Attended Town Manager's meeting with property owners abutting Goodwin School.
- Attended State Title I District Coordinators' meeting.
- Attended Achievement Gap Task Force meeting.
- Attended CIRMA Risk Management meeting.
- Attended Bring Your Own Technology Workshop.
- Attended Legislative Wrap-Up of the 2012 General Assembly.
- Attended CAPSS Technology Committee meeting.
- Attended CAPSS Assessment & Accountability Committee meeting.
- Facilitated District Wellness Policy Advisory Committee meeting.
- Attended EASTCONN Annual Meeting.
- Attended CCM-FOIA Training.
- Attended SIFMA Foundation award presentation to MMS Stock Market Team.

Additional information will be provided upon request by calling 429.3350 or by emailing mboesupt@mansfieldct.org.

Mansfield Public Schools Monthly Memorable Moments

Goodwin School

- As part of Goodwin's 9 5 2 1 0 initiative, Anne Wiant Rudd organized Walking Wednesdays. Each of the five Wednesdays in May, students are encouraged to meet staff members and walk together to school. The walk from Holinko Estates to Goodwin gives everyone a chance to enjoy some fresh air in a relaxed way. It is a great way to start the school day. This year, the group was escorted by two state troopers who walked with the students and provided crossing safety. Each week approximately 50 students participate in the walk.
- Goodwin students showed off their inquisitive minds at our annual Science Fair. Over 100 students participated by developing an experiment, observing their results, and then creating a display to share with the school. On May 3, parents and other family members came to the school in the evening to see their projects. Some of the varied experiments and projects included: an experiment to determine if purchasing stain guard for carpets was cost effective; a study of what types of bird seed are most popular with feathered friends; and a number of studies on the amount of chemicals in popular products and sugar in popular drinks.
- First and Second graders roared to life on May 10 as they performed in the musical DinoStars. Once again, Lisa Corriveau managed to find the perfect musical score for six and seven year olds and the performance was exuberant. Colorful dinosaur costumes designed by Karen Anger completed the show. To the delight of their families, Goodwin's youngest performers really got into their characters!

Southeast School

- This year's math-a-thon, which was organized and sponsored by one of our classroom teachers, Susan Kamienski, raised \$4000. Southeast has been participating in this event for nine years. St. Jude's Math-A-Thon is a way for students to help to save the lives of patients at St. Jude's Research Hospital while sharpening math skills.
- This year's "Go Green Mural" poster contest for Earth Day was directed by two of our UConn Master's Program interns, Michael Badulak and Matthew Hoey. Our K-4 students were invited to design a poster that promoted earth-friendly practices and environmental sustainability. Posters were judged on their message and appearance. The winning poster was recreated as a mural on an outside school wall. The winning student drawings were interwoven and painted by Mr. Badulak and Mr. Hoey to create the "Go Green Mural." Five Southeast students helped to create the mural.
- First Grade Teacher Mickey Maheu and UConn 5th Year Interns Michael Badulak and Matthew Hoey, along with the students from the Green Thumbs Club, had two plant sales which were held in the Southeast greenhouse. A variety of vegetable and flowering plants were available to our Southeast community for purchase. Plants were also available for purchase for the school community at the annual Southeast Tag Sale. The money raised from the sale of the plants goes into the Green Thumbs Club account which helps to finance activities that promote environmental awareness and practices at Southeast. Over \$1,500 was raised.

Vinton School

- Three students from Annie E. Vinton School were selected by judges to represent their school at the Connecticut Invention Convention, held on April 28th, 2012. Alex Semenza invented an energy saving system, whereby children will remember to turn off the lights in a room when they leave it. Matthew Chandy invented a system for children to remember their personal health goals using the 95210 model, which could be attached to backpacks. Matei Mandoiu invented a robotic page turner for his music stand. The students all received additional awards at the state-wide event, and shared that they had a wonderful time there. We are all proud of our Vinton inventors.

Vinton continued

- On May 7th Bob Bloom presented an interactive drumming program for all grades at Vinton. Students and staff sang along to songs from all genres of music, including rock & roll, funk, and swing, while Bob played a variety of drums. Each student had the chance to participate by playing a drum in concert with their class and Bob. It was a unique experience for everyone at Vinton!
- On Wednesday, May 16, the Vinton Kindergarten classes paid a return visit to the Mansfield Nursing Home and Rehabilitation Center. We spent a few minutes with the residents, singing some springtime songs and delivering cards we had made in school. We also showed off our reading skills by reading books to our senior friends. Everyone had fun and it sure seemed to brighten the day at the nursing home! Upon departing, we headed up the road a bit to the famous Horsebarn Hill at UCONN. We ate a picnic lunch, and then toured a few of the barns to get a close look at animals such as horses, cows, pigs, and sheep. We got to visit with some calves, and even got to watch dairy cows being milked! We wrapped up our trip with a stop at the legendary UCONN Dairy Bar for some ice cream, then headed back to Vinton. What a great day to be in K!

Mansfield Middle School

- MMS special education teacher Sharon Cline has received a \$1000 grant from Liberty Bank Foundation's 2012-13 academic grants program for K-12 schools. The grant will be used for the purchase of licenses for Reading Plus, an on-line supplemental reading program.
- MMS seventh grade teacher Elyse Poller served as Conference Co-Chair for this spring's Northeast Regional Conference on the Social Studies in Sturbridge, MA. The conference's theme was 21st Century Learning: The Role and Future of the Social Studies. In a letter to conference participants, the co-chairs wrote, "The teaching of Social Studies is at risk, especially at the elementary school level, as the emphasis on reading, writing and math test scores absorbs more energy and time during the school day. Ironically, it is the very skills that are the focus of the reforms and test preparation that are at the heart of Social Studies instruction."
- Library Media Coordinator Dr. Linda Robinson received a Thomas R. Flanagan Student Activities Memorial Grant award for Mansfield's Books on Buses program. The \$800 award will be used for the purchase of books that will be available for this summer's program. This summer's Books on Buses program will begin on Tuesday, June 26.
- On Wednesday, April 25, 18 eighth grade students traveled to John Winthrop Middle School in Deep River, CT, to participate in a debate competition sponsored by Civics First CT. Students debated both affirmative and negative positions about whether or not the double jeopardy clause of the 5th Amendment of the US Constitution should be abolished. At this event, two MMS students, Saskia Martinez and Mira Gordin, won both rounds of their debates. Saskia and Mira proceeded to the semi-finals on Tuesday, May 1, and won again! On Wednesday, May 30, there will be four single-elimination rounds before the final winners of the Young People's Debate Competition for 2012 are determined.

Upcoming Events in June:

Please join us at any/all of these events

GW	SE	VN
TV Turn Off Week & Book Fair 6/4-8/12	PTO Meeting 6/4/12 7:00pm	Garden Club FT to WAIM Garden 6/4/12 3:00pm
PTO Playground Social 6/6/12 5:30pm	4 th Grade Moving-On Ceremony 6/12/12 7:00pm	Kindergarten FT to Bakerwoods & Hole in the Wall Gang Camp 6/5/12
PTO Sock Hop 6/8/12 6:00pm	Celebration of Learning 6/13/12 5:30pm	4 th Grade Musical 6/6/12 2:00pm & 7:00pm
Field Day 6/13/12	Fun In Our Own Backyard 6/15/12	PTA Ice Cream Social 6/7/12 6:00pm
4 th Grade Promotion 6/14/12 7:00pm		2 nd Grade Pen Pal Picnic 6/7/12
Waterslide Day 6/15/12		Martial Arts Fest 6/8/12
4 th Grade Class Night 6/15/12 5:30pm		Book Swap Day 6/12/12
Town Meeting 6/19/12 2:30pm		4 th Grade Promotion 6/12/12 7:00pm
		4 th Grade FT CT Science Center 6/14/12
		Kindergarten Teddy Bear Picnic 6/14/12
MMS		
Great East Adjudication Festival 6/1/12	Medieval Faire Gr. 7 6/7/12 2:50pm	Authors' Fair Gr. 5 6/14/12 5:00pm
Class Night Gr. 8 6/15/12 5:30pm	Field Day 6/18/12 11:10am	Closing Ceremony Gr. 8 6/19/12 7:00pm
Class Picnic Gr. 8 10:00am		
District		
Retirement Party UConn Rome Ballroom 6/11/12 4:00pm	Board of Education Meeting Council Chambers 6/14/12 7:30pm	Last Day of School for Students (Early Dismissal) June 20, 2012

Link to District Four Schools Calendar of Events:

<http://www.mansfieldct.gov/content/11150/13915/11152/13573/14378/default.aspx>

or:

Go to <http://www.mansfieldct.gov/mboe> (Board of Ed. website)

- 1) In the middle at the bottom is a link called "Calendar of Events"
- 2) Click on that link and it will bring you to the calendar.